

# Comparisons of Job Characteristics

**Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)**

**Associated Occupation: Orthotists and Prosthetists (29-2091)**

[Compare Knowledge](#)

[Compare Skills](#)

[Compare Abilities](#)

[Compare Detailed Work Activities](#)

[Compare Tools and Technologies](#)

<<	Focus occupation element is much lower
<	Focus occupation element is lower
0	Focus occupation element is at a similar level
>	Focus occupation element is at a higher level
>>	Focus occupation element is at a much higher level

## Knowledge

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 51

**Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)**  
**Associated Occupation: Orthotists and Prosthetists (29-2091)**

Associated Occupation's Key Knowledge Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Customer and Personal Service	11.3	20.3	18.4	<	Expanded education and/or training may be required
Engineering and Technology	5.7	16.2	2.0	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Psychology	6.4	15.7	14.6	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Mechanical	6.8	15.6	3.5	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Production and Processing	6.0	15.2	3.7	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Design	5.2	14.0	2.1	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Medicine and Dentistry	3.7	13.6	12.5	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Administration and Management	8.4	13.1	6.8	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Sales and Marketing	5.2	12.1	3.4	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Therapy and Counseling	3.8	10.9	15.0	>>	Current knowledge level is likely more than sufficient
Personnel and Human Resources	5.6	10.0	4.8	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Physics	4.3	10.0	6.9	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Biology	3.7	8.0	8.5	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

## Skills

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 90

**Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)**  
**Associated Occupation: Orthotists and Prosthetists (29-2091)**

Associated Occupation's Key Skills Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Active Listening	11.0	14.0	11.5	<	A higher skill level may be required
Speaking	10.8	13.7	12.5	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Service Orientation	7.9	10.8	10.8	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Instructing	7.8	10.7	9.6	<	A higher skill level may be required
Operations Analysis	5.0	9.4	4.3	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Technology Design	2.6	5.7	3.3	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

## Abilities

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 89

**Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)**  
**Associated Occupation: Orthotists and Prosthetists (29-2091)**

Associated Occupation's Key Abilities Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Oral Expression	12.4	15.0	13.3	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Oral Comprehension	12.5	14.7	13.3	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Problem Sensitivity	11.1	13.7	11.1	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Inductive Reasoning	10.2	13.6	9.7	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Deductive Reasoning	10.6	12.9	10.1	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Written Expression	9.8	12.6	10.0	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Visualization	7.5	11.2	9.4	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

## Activities that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 91

**Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)**  
**Associated Occupation: Orthotists and Prosthetists (29-2091)**

Work Activities	Exclusivity of Activity
Administer medications or treatments	46

Fit patients for prosthetic device, using static or dynamic alignment	92
Maintain dental or medical records	64
Observe patient condition	48
Use knowledge of medical terminology	40

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily perform all of the listed activities. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the activity is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations engage in that activity.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

## Tools and Technologies that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus  
Occupation to Associated  
Occupation: 63

**Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)**  
**Associated Occupation: Orthotists and Prosthetists (29-2091)**

Tools and Technologies	Exclusivity
Cameras	2
Computers	1
Content authoring and editing software	1
Data management and query software	1
Diagnostic assessment and exam products for general use	21
Finance accounting and enterprise resource planning ERP software	2
Industry specific software	1
Information exchange software	1
Measuring and layout tools	3
Medical exam size measuring devices	24
Medical staff clothing and related articles	17
Vision protection and accessories	3

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily use all of the listed tools and technologies. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the tool or technology is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations use that tool or technology.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.